

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are in this application and are presented for consideration. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 9, 12, 17, 19 and 20.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koslowski (DE 2702214 A).

The present invention relates to an apparatus for circulating air within double glazed thermoinsulated walls having an internal glass pane and an external glass pane. The internal glass pane is parallel to the external glass pane such that a space is defined between the internal glass pane and the external glass pane. Air is drawn in through an air inlet via a tangential fan. Sensors are provided for detecting the hygrothermal conditions, i.e. temperature and humidity, of the air. An electrical motor controls the rotational speed of the tangential fan based on the hygrothermal conditions detected by the sensors. This advantageously allows the fan to speed up when the air is humid. This advantageously avoids condensation from forming on the panes. The prior art as a whole fails to disclose such control features or such condensation reduction advantages.

Koslowski discloses a fan 22 for drawing air from an outside environment and an internal environment via a lower air inlet. During the summer, the entrance opening 14 leading in to the lower trim part 2 to the window exterior is opened while the entrance opening 13 leading to the inside is closed. The air inlet 19 in the upper trim part 3 is also opened during the summer. Air is then sucked in through the air inlet 19 and the lower opening 14. Colder outside air is introduced over the vertical channel 15 into the window interior 8 and slides along

the inner wing 4 and outerwing 5 into the cavity of the upper trim part 3. There it mixes with air from the inlet 19 and finally arrives into the exhaust box 21. In this way, the air column which is within the window interior is permanently rolled over and replaced by colder outside air. In the winter, slot 18 of the opening 14 leading to the window exterior is locked so that the air is sucked in exclusively by the entrance opening 13. This warm room air enters the window interior 8. The cross sections of the openings in the lower trim part are adjustable by means of slot slidegate valves. The valves are arranged on the exterior and the inside of the lower trim part and can be adjusted by hand or automatically, which can take place by means of a thermostat.

Koslowski fails to teach and fails to suggest the combination of a motor that controls a rotational speed of a fan based on hygrothermal conditions of the air detected by one or more sensors. At most, Koslowski discloses slot slidegate valves that are opened and closed based on a winter operation and a summer operation. However, Koslowski is completely void of any teaching of a motor that actuates the fan 22 based on hygrothermal conditions of the air entering the window interior 8 via either entrance opening 18 or entrance opening 17. In contrast to Koslowski, the fan of the present invention is actuated by a motor based on the hygrothermal conditions of the air detected by one or more sensors. This advantageously prevents moisture from forming on the glass panes since the flow of the air being drawn into the airflow space can be increased by the motor. This advantageously also provides excellent thermal insulation during both the summer and winter seasons so that significant thermal losses are prevented. Koslowski fails to provide such condensation prevention advantages since

Koslowski only discloses a thermostat to determine when a lower air inlet opening is opened to either the internal environment or the external environment, but fails to disclose that the thermostat controls the speed of fan 22 based on the hygrothermal conditions of the air drawn into the window interior 8 as claimed. In fact, there is no teaching in Koslowski that would suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art that the thermostat detects the humidity of the air. The ordinary meaning of a thermostat is a device that controls one or more sources of heating or cooling to maintain a desired temperature by sensing changes in temperature and not humidity (see <http://www.answers.com/topic/thermostat?cat=technology>). As such, the prior art as a whole takes a different approach and fails to disclose each feature of the claimed combination. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner favorably consider claims 1, 12 and 19 as now presented and all claims that respectively depend thereon.

Favorable consideration on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,



By: _____

John James McGlew
Registration No. 31,903
McGLEY AND TUTTLE, P.C.

- and -



By: _____

Brian M. Duncan
Registration No. 58,505
McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:BMD
72214-11

DATED: April 22, 2008
BOX 9227 SCARBOROUGH STATION
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-9227
(914) 941-5600

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